

a school is "in need of improvement": Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring, That the New Hampshire general court urges the Congress of the United States to amend the No Child Left Behind Act with consideration of the National Conference of State Legislatures' task force recommendations, to allow each state department of education the flexibility to monitor, supervise, and evaluate each school's effectiveness in documenting the physical, personal, social, and academic growth of each child; and

That the New Hampshire general court urges the Congress of the United States to request a Government Accountability Office evaluation of the costs to states and local school districts of complying with the No Child Left Behind Act requirements and of achieving the 100 percent proficiency goals of the No Child Left Behind Act; and

That the senate clerk send copies of this resolution to the President and Secretary of the United States Senate, the Speaker and the Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, and each member of the New Hampshire congressional delegation.

POM-172. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the State of Pennsylvania urging Congress to repeal the REAL ID Act or delay its implementation until such time as sufficient funds are available to adequately cover the costs of implementation and amendment is made to preserve essential civil rights; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SENATE RESOLUTION

Whereas, in May 2005 the Congress of the United States passed the REAL ID Act of 2005 (REAL ID Act) as part of the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act for Defense, the Global War on Terror, and Tsunami Relief Act, 2005 (Public Law 109-13), which was signed into law on May 11, 2005, and which becomes fully effective May 11, 2008; and

Whereas, the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania denounces terrorism in all its forms and condemns all acts of terrorism by any entity, wherever the acts occur; and

Whereas, any new security measures to protect against terrorist attacks should be carefully designed to enhance public safety without infringing on the civil liberties and rights of citizens; and

Whereas, the REAL ID Act constitutes an unfunded mandate by the Federal Government to the states; and

Whereas, it will cost the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania an estimated \$100 million to implement the REAL ID Act; and

Whereas, the implementation of the REAL ID Act intrudes upon the states' sovereign power to determine their own policies for identification, licensure and credentialing of individuals residing therein; and

Whereas, the REAL ID Act requires the creation of a massive public sector database containing information on every American that is accessible to all motor vehicle agency employees and law enforcement officers nationwide and that can be used to gather and manage information on citizens, which is neither the business nor the responsibility of government; and

Whereas, the REAL ID Act enables the creation of additional massive private sector databases, combining both transactional information and driver's license information gained from scanning the machine-readable information contained on every driver's license; and

Whereas, these public and private databases are likely to contain numerous errors

and false information, creating significant hardship for Americans attempting to verify their identities in order to fly, open a bank account or perform any of the numerous functions required to live in the United States today; and

Whereas, the REAL ID Act requires a driver's license to contain a person's actual home address and makes no exception for individuals in potential danger, such as undercover law enforcement officials or victims of domestic violence, stalking or criminal harassment; and

Whereas, the REAL ID Act contains onerous record verification provisions that place unreasonable burdens on Pennsylvanians renewing their driver's licenses; and

Whereas, some of the intended privacy requirements of the REAL ID Act, such as the use of common machine-readable technology and state maintenance of a database that can be shared with the United States Government and agencies of other states, may actually make it more likely that a federally required driver's license or state identification card, or the information about the bearer on which the license or card is based, will be stolen, sold or otherwise used for purposes that were never intended or that are criminally related than if the REAL ID Act had not been enacted; and

Whereas, these potential breaches in privacy that could result directly from compliance with the REAL ID Act may violate the right to privacy of thousands of Pennsylvanians; and

Whereas, identification-based security provides only limited security benefits because it can be avoided by defrauding or corrupting card issuers and because it gives no protection against people not already known to be planning or committing wrongful acts; and

Whereas, a growing number of states have proposed and passed legislation that opposes the implementation of the REAL ID Act: Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania support the intention of the United States Government to prevent terrorism, but not at the expense of the essential civil rights and liberties of the citizens of this country; and be it further

Resolved, That the Senate oppose any portion of the REAL ID Act that violates the rights and liberties guaranteed under the Constitution of Pennsylvania or the Constitution of the United States, including the Bill of Rights; and be it further

Resolved, That the Senate urge the Pennsylvania Congressional Delegation to support measures to repeal the REAL ID Act or to delay its implementation until such time as sufficient funds are available to adequately cover the costs of implementation and amendment is made to preserve essential civil rights and liberties of the citizens of this country; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the presiding officers of each house of Congress and to each member of Congress from Pennsylvania.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. BYRD, from the Committee on Appropriations:

Special Report entitled "Further Revised Allocation to Subcommittees of Budget Totals from the Concurrent Resolution for Fiscal Year 2008" (Rept. No. 110-133).

By Mr. KOHL, from the Committee on Appropriations, without amendment:

S. 1859. An original bill making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 110-134).

By Mr. AKAKA, from the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, without amendment:

S. 423. A bill to increase, effective as of December 1, 2007, the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans (Rept. No. 110-135).

By Mr. BIDEN, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, without amendment:

S. 1500. A bill to support democracy and human rights in Zimbabwe, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 110-136).

By Mr. BAUCUS, from the Committee on Finance, without amendment:

S.J. Res. 16. A joint resolution approving the renewal of import restrictions contained in the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. LEAHY for the Committee on the Judiciary.

William Lindsay Osteen, Jr., of North Carolina, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of North Carolina.

Martin Karl Reidinger, of North Carolina, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of North Carolina.

Timothy D. DeGiusti, of Oklahoma, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Oklahoma.

Janis Lynn Sammartino, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of California.

Roslynn Renee Mauskopf, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York.

Joe W. Stecher, of Nebraska, to be United States Attorney for the District of Nebraska for the term of four years.

By Mr. AKAKA for the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

*Charles L. Hopkins, of Massachusetts, to be an Assistant Secretary of Veterans Affairs (Operations, Preparedness, Security and Law Enforcement).

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendations that they be confirmed.)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. KOHL:

S. 1859. An original bill making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Appropriations; placed on the calendar.